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26 January 1957

ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM FOR: EIC Representatives of the IAC Agencies and of Certain non-IAC Agencies Represented Actively on EIC Subcommittees

SUBJECT: Proposed Procedure for Reviewing EIC Subcommittee Activities

1. In planning the systematic review of its subcommittees which the EIC has agreed to undertake, a principal objective will be to develop constructive proposals for strengthening subcommittees which are encountering special problems, or which have been less effective than had been anticipated when they were first established. I should expect, therefore, that we should wish to give fullest consideration to such SCs, and that for the majority of EIC SCs (whose functioning raises no particular problems) our review need consist of little more than reports from the responsible officers with an opportunity for members to raise questions. With this distinction in mind I have gone over the list of our subcommittees and studied the annual reports which each submitted last fall. I should like to propose the following general order for EIC consideration of its subcommittees -- with some flexibility as new situations may develop -- so that we might give earliest and most detailed attention to subcommittees which have raised particular problems, or which have been relatively inactive:

- Electronics and Telecommunications
  - International Trade and Finance
  - General Economic Analysis
  - Chemicals (new chm.)
  - Electric Power and Solid Fuels (new chm.)
  - Minerals and Metals
  - Agriculture
  - Industrial Machinery and Equipment
  - Petroleum
  - Population and Manpower
  - Shipbuilding (new chm. Due 5/)
  - Transportation
  - Requirements and Facilities for Collation
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2. To facilitate our review of EIC subcommittees, I have had the Secretariat prepare the attached chart, which summarizes graphically the principal activities which these SCs have undertaken in the last two and one-half years (excluding the SC on Requirements and Facilities for Collection, which has a different type of function). It is set up in terms of the "General Concept and Functions of EIC Subcommittees" adopted on 20 December 1955 (EIC-D-123/2), and cannot, of course, reflect the full story of activities and accomplishments of some of the individual groups. I believe it will be useful, however, to have this graphic summary before us as the EIC examines its several subcommittees in detail.

3. Unless the members indicate preferences for another order of procedure, I propose that we have a brief discussion of SC activities as a whole (on the basis of the attached chart) at the EIC meeting scheduled for Thursday, 7 February. Discussion of individual subcommittees would be initiated at the following EIC meeting. I have asked the Secretariat to prepare additional briefing material on the subcommittees listed for earliest consideration, and if the members find this material useful I shall arrange to provide it for all subsequent NIC reviews of other SCs. I should also propose that the officers of each SC scheduled for review (and any SC members who are specially concerned) would be invited to be present during part of the EIC discussion and to contribute their views about their SC's activities and problems.

4. Please call me or the Secretariat if you have any different suggestions for our proceeding in this matter.

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Attachments